

Appl. No. 09/917,171

Response date: October 12, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

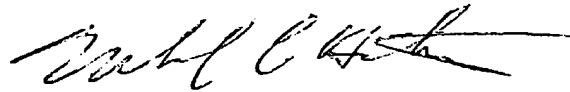
Claims 2-8, 10-33, 35-45 and 48-65 are pending; claims 2-8, 10-33, 43-45 and 48-65 are allowed. Claims 40-42 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants amended claim 40 to be in independent form including all limitations of the base and intervening claims as per the objection to make the claims allowable, cancelled claim 35, and amended the dependencies of claims 36-39 to depend from the new independent claim.

In view of the above response, Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that such action be taken. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,



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